

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for initiating a software download, comprising:
 - 2 a) accessing via a network a page of a web site utilizing a browser application
 - 3 running on a client computer, wherein a plug-in application is included the page
 - 4 of the web site;
 - 5 b) determining whether the client computer is suitable for receiving the plug-in
 - 6 application;
 - 7 c) downloading the plug-in application from the web site to the client computer via
 - 8 the network if the client computer is determined to be suitable for receiving the
 - 9 plug-in application, wherein the plug-in application has instructions for
 - 10 downloading a download manager application to the client computer via the
 - 11 network;
 - 12 d) downloading the download manager application to the client computer via the
 - 13 network utilizing the plug-in application, wherein the download manager
 - 14 application has instructions for downloading a software application in chunks to
 - 15 the client computer via the network; and
 - 16 e) downloading the software application in chunks to the client computer via the
 - 17 network utilizing the download manager application.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plug-in application comprises at least one of
- 2 an ActiveX control and a JavaScript application.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein a security feature of the browser application of
- 2 the client computer requires that a user authorize the downloading of the plug-in
- 3 application.

- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the security feature includes displaying a
2 message to the user that notifies the user to authorize the downloading of the
3 plug-in application.
- 1 5. The method of claim 3, wherein another page of the web site is displayed to the
2 user if the authorization to download the plug-in application is denied by the user.
- 1 6. The method of claim 3, wherein information about whether or not the
2 downloading of the plug-in application was authorized by the user is stored in the
3 client computer.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the suitability of the client computer
2 for receiving the plug-in application includes determining whether the number of
3 times the client computer has accessed the web site is under a predetermined
4 threshold number.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein another page of the web site is displayed on the if
2 the client computer is determined to be unsuitable for receiving the plug-in
3 application.
- 1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein a license agreement is displayed on the client
2 computer to the user prior to the downloading of the plug-in application.
- 1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the determination of the suitability of the client
2 computer for receiving the plug-in application is carried out by another web site.
- 1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the page of the web site launches a window
2 which initiates the determination of the suitability of the client computer for
3 receiving the plug-in application.
- 1 12. A system for initiating a software download, comprising:

- a) logic for accessing via a network a page of a web site utilizing a browser application running on a client computer, wherein a plug-in application is included the page of the web site;
- b) logic for determining whether the client computer is suitable for receiving the plug-in application;
- c) logic for downloading the plug-in application from the web site to the client computer via the network if the client computer is determined to be suitable for receiving the plug-in application, wherein the plug-in application has instructions for downloading a download manager application to the client computer via the network;
- d) logic for downloading the download manager application to the client computer via the network utilizing the plug-in application, wherein the download manager application has instructions for downloading a software application in chunks to the client computer via the network; and
- e) logic for downloading the software application in chunks to the client computer via the network utilizing the download manager application.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the plug-in application comprises at least one of an ActiveX control and a JavaScript application.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein a security feature of the browser application of the client computer requires that a user authorize the downloading of the plug-in application.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the security feature includes displaying a message to the user that notifies the user to authorize the downloading of the plug-in application.

16. The system of claim 14, wherein another page of the web site is displayed to the user if the authorization to download the plug-in application is denied by the user.

1 17. The system of claim 14, wherein information about whether or not the
2 downloading of the plug-in application was authorized by the user is stored in the
3 client computer.

1 18. The system of claim 12, wherein determining the suitability of the client computer
2 for receiving the plug-in application includes determining whether the number of
3 times the client computer has accessed the web site is under a predetermined
4 threshold number.

1 19. The system of claim 12, wherein another page of the web site is displayed on the
2 if the client computer is determined to be unsuitable for receiving the plug-in
3 application.

1 20. The system of claim 12, wherein a license agreement is displayed on the client
2 computer to the user prior to the downloading of the plug-in application.

1 21. The system of claim 12, wherein the determination of the suitability of the client
2 computer for receiving the plug-in application is carried out by another web site.

1 22. The system of claim 12, wherein the page of the web site launches a window
2 which initiates the determination of the suitability of the client computer for
3 receiving the plug-in application.

1 23. A computer program product for initiating a software download, comprising:
2 a) computer code for accessing via a network a page of a web site utilizing a
3 browser application running on a client computer, wherein a plug-in application is
4 included the page of the web site;
5 b) computer code for determining whether the client computer is suitable for
6 receiving the plug-in application;
7 c) computer code for downloading the plug-in application from the web site to the
8 client computer via the network if the client computer is determined to be suitable

for receiving the plug-in application, wherein the plug-in application has instructions for downloading a download manager application to the client computer via the network;

d) computer code for downloading the download manager application to the client computer via the network utilizing the plug-in application, wherein the download manager application has instructions for downloading a software application in chunks to the client computer via the network; and

e) computer code for downloading the software application in chunks to the client computer via the network utilizing the download manager application.

24. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the plug-in application comprises at least one of an ActiveX control and a JavaScript application.

25. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein a security feature of the browser application of the client computer requires that a user authorize the downloading of the plug-in application.

26. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein the security feature includes displaying a message to the user that notifies the user to authorize the downloading of the plug-in application.

27. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein another page of the web site is displayed to the user if the authorization to download the plug-in application is denied by the user.

28. The computer program product of claim 25, wherein information about whether or not the downloading of the plug-in application was authorized by the user is stored in the client computer.

29. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein determining the suitability of the client computer for receiving the plug-in application includes determining

3 whether the number of times the client computer has accessed the web site is
4 under a predetermined threshold number.

1 30. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein another page of the web site
2 is displayed on the if the client computer is determined to be unsuitable for
3 receiving the plug-in application.

1 31. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein a license agreement is
2 displayed on the client computer to the user prior to the downloading of the plug-
3 in application.

1 32. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the determination of the
2 suitability of the client computer for receiving the plug-in application is carried
3 out by another web site.

1 33. The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the page of the web site
2 launches a window which initiates the determination of the suitability of the client
3 computer for receiving the plug-in application.

1 34. A method for initiating a software download, comprising:
2 a) accessing via a network a first page of a web site utilizing a browser application
3 running on a client computer, wherein a plug-in application is included the first
4 page of the web site, wherein the plug-in application comprises at least one of an
5 ActiveX control;
6 b) determining whether the client computer is suitable for receiving the plug-in
7 application, wherein determining the suitability of the client computer for
8 receiving the plug-in application includes determining whether the number of
9 times the client computer has accessed the web site is under a predetermined
10 threshold number, wherein a second page of the web site is displayed on the if the
11 client computer is determined to be unsuitable for receiving the plug-in
12 application;

- 13 c) downloading the plug-in application from the web site to the client computer via
14 the network if the client computer is determined to be suitable for receiving the
15 plug-in application, wherein a security feature of the browser application of the
16 client computer requires that a user of the client computer authorize the
17 downloading of the plug-in application, wherein the plug-in application has
18 instructions for downloading a download manager application to the client
19 computer from a second web site via the network;
- 20 d) downloading the download manager application to the client computer via the
21 network utilizing the plug-in application, wherein the download manager
22 application has instructions for downloading a software application in chunks to
23 the client computer via the network from a web site other than the web site having
24 the plug-in application; and
- 25 e) downloading the software application in chunks to the client computer via the
26 network utilizing the download manager application.